

Glad Tidings

Zion Lutheran Church – A Joyous Oasis Sharing Life through Christ!
September 2026



Support the Mission of Zion Lutheran Church

Lani Sanders

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is Zion Lutheran School. Offering education in a Lutheran Christian context, we are committed to teaching children about the world they live in through the lens of Jesus and his saving work. We have been given the opportunity and privilege of sharing God's love with our students and their families.

There are several ways you can support our mission:

Adopt a class and pray for the teachers, the students and their families, and the school: not only their studies, but also their family life and home issues, their influence in their communities, their health, and their salvation. Lists of first names of students in each classroom are in the narthex of the church by the kitchen. Please pick one up and pray for our students, their families and our teachers!

Physical presence is support. Show up at their programs, their open houses and educational displays, etc., as you can, representing Jesus' love and care in their lives.

Commit to the Give25 program—\$25 a month in monetary support—a small amount to further the love of God in our community and world.

Please support our mission—Zion Lutheran School!

PRAY
for our
Zion School
Students





Flat Jesus at the Blessing of the Backpacks



Today's Light

Lani Sanders

Week 35 begins August 31 with 1 Chronicles 18
 Week 36 begins September 7 with 2 Chronicles 1
 Week 37 begins September 14 with 2 Chronicles 13
 Week 38 begins September 21 with 2 Chronicles 27
 Week 39 begins September 28 with 2 Chronicles 34
 (For more information contact Lani Sanders.)

thrivent

Connecting faith and finances for good.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®

Thrivent Financial members that have Choice Dollars® have until Wednesday, March 31 to direct them

Chuck Knapp

The Thrivent Choice program has been upgraded, making it even easier for Thrivent clients with membership to live generously and support organizations like Zion Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran School.

1. More members can now support us as all 1.9M members receive Choice Dollars.
2. Choice Dollars are now available, in full, at the beginning of each year. All 2026 Choice Dollars are available to direct now.
3. In the past, directions were due by March 31 of the calendar year. Members can now direct anytime through December 31.

When directing your Choice Dollars please consider Zion Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran School, and remember, if you don't direct where your Choice Dollars go, someone else may direct they go to an organization you don't support.



Flat Jesus at Immanuel Lutheran School Riverside
with Lori and Angie



STAY
connected

Lani Sanders

Please join us on Wednesdays after chapel as we **pray together for Zion Lutheran School.**

The Community Service Board will be collecting food and hygiene items for the FAM Spot. They are in need of **canned or boxed food that is easy for the kids to prepare, such as: Spaghetti O's, Ravioli, Mac n' Cheese, Ramen etc.** Please place your donations in one of the collection baskets in the narthex. Thank you!

Check out the **inspirational books available** in the meeting room. The book table is a take a book, borrow a book, or donate book table. Check it out!

We're looking for families to host our **Coffee Time** on the first Sunday of each month. Set up (coffee would be prepared), provide a simple treat, and help clean up afterwards. Please consider signing up for a Sunday.



Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. – 1 Peter 4:10

Welcome to September 2026!

Throughout the year we experience multiple transitions. One of those transitions comes to us in September. Students return to school and the routines of our daily lives tend to fall back into their normal pattern. September also brings us our annual celebration of Labor Day. On this day we celebrate and acknowledge the 'labor' and service of those around us. We also, with thanksgiving, acknowledge the One who gifts each of us with unique gifts and talents. Gifts and talents that we put into practice to the glory of God and for the blessing of others.

Peter, in his first epistle, highlights this 'gospel' reality and calls all of us to explore, develop, and live in the unique giftedness that God has blessed all of us with. In chapter four of his first letter Peter writes: *'Each of us should use whatever gift we have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.'* (1 Peter 4:10)

Peter here acknowledges that 'who we are' reflects the fingerprints of God in our lives. ('Each of you should use **whatever gift you have received** ...') We are all unique, but still, in each of us, the 'Image of God' is

reflected. (Cf. Genesis 1:26-28) This is the starting point of our understanding of life and purpose. God has blessed us uniquely and wonderfully and with thanksgiving, we rejoice.

Peter then calls us to use these gifts, talents, and abilities that we've received in a way that honors God and serves each other. Peter writes: **'Use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.'** We are stewards of the blessings of God and a 'fulfilled and purposeful life' reflects and acknowledges the blessings of God in our lives. Indeed, we have been 'Blessed to be a Blessing!'

Unfortunately, in our fallen-ness, this 'way of life' tends to be foreign to us. Far too often we see 'who we are' and 'what we've accomplished' in a self-centered way. Jesus speaks of this fallen reality in his 'Parable of the Rich Fool' saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "*You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.*"' "But God said to him, 'You fool!" (Luke 12:16-20a) Indeed, created in the Image of God, we are stewards of the many blessings that God entrusts to us. Yes, we take care of ourselves and our families, but, as stewards of God's handiwork, we also use that 'blessing' to bless others and not just ourselves. Thus, we act as God's 'ministers of reconciliation' (Cf. 2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

Paul, likewise, calls us to this steward's life, writing: *'I urge you, in view of God's mercy, offer yourselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is true and proper worship. Stop conforming to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will'* (Romans 12:1-2). Paul, in his first letter to Timothy, also adds: *'But godliness with contentment is great gain. We brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness'* (1 Timothy 6:6-11).

This September, this Labor Day, may we look to God. He is the source of all life and in Him we find the fullness of life.

Pastor Busch



Flat Jesus at Chico State University with Pastor Busch



We had a great start to our school year! It was wonderful welcoming all of our students back. We also had our Blessing of the Backpacks, and we pray that all of our students and staff have a blessed school year.

September will be a busy and fun month. There will be no school on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day. Picture Day will be Tuesday, September 15, so don't forget those smiles! We will also celebrate Kindness Week from September 21 through September 25. Each day will have a fun theme, and we hope all of our students will participate. Let's work together to spread kindness throughout our school! Friday, September 25 will be a minimum day, with dismissal at 11:40 AM. We are looking forward to another great month together.

We are still accepting new students. If you know anyone interested in Christ-centered education, please have them call the school office at 760-243-3074.



Preschool News

Rosemarie Carrizosa

September is here and we are excited to start talking about the fall season!

This Month we will be doing apple crafts, All About Me activities, and starting up our Zoo Phonics curriculum. We will be closed Sept 7th in honor of Labor Day. September 21-25 will be Kindness Week, so we will dress up and have fun each day that week. We look forward to a wonderful school year here at Zion as we continue to grow and learn in God's grace.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Church **FAMILY** —PRAYER LIST—

Lani Sanders

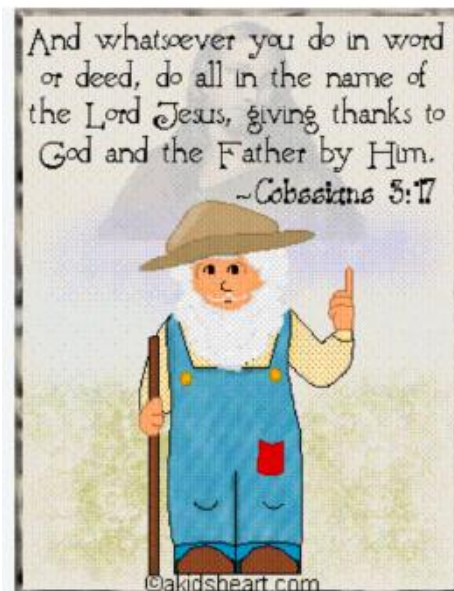
Please remember...

- ...**Amy Knapp**, recovering from a biopsy...
- ...**Lisa Reimers**, recovering from wrist surgery...
- ...**Linda Seidenglanz**, recovering from knee surgery...
- ...**Cindy Walker**, hospitalized and undergoing testing...
- ...**Marlene Henry**, recovering from hip surgery...
- ...**Louis**, son of Joann Asta, recovering at home...
- ...**Scott** (son of Gene Dale), diagnosed with a brain tumor...
- ...**Pat** (Deborah Hofmann's mother), being treated for cancer...
- ...**Delorah Gothard** (former member), suffering with heart issues...
- ...**Cozelle** (M'Less Tripple's mother), on hospice care, asking for comfort...
- ...**Jimmy Garcia**, recovering at home after long stay in rehab...
- ...all those in harm's way due to armed conflicts,,,

Let us offer Praise and Thanksgiving for the confirmation of Leo Munoz.

We ask for the Lord's comfort and peace for the family and friends of **Wilma (Theo Gieroff's sister)**, at her passing...

We ask for the Lord's comfort and peace for the family and friends of **Walter Asta (son of Joann Asta)**, at his passing...





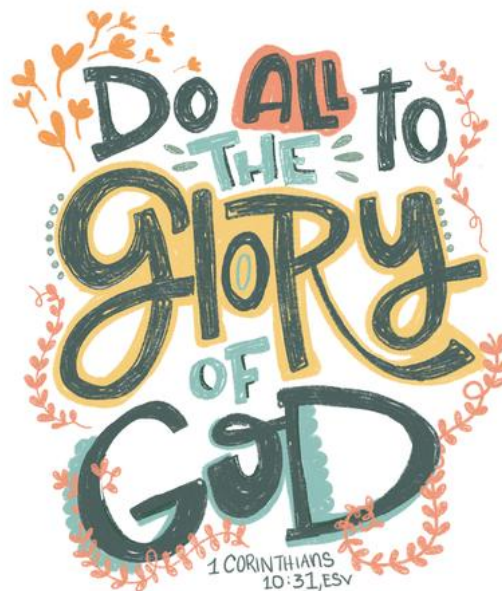
Missionary Sunday

by Chuck Knapp

Zion's 5th Sunday door offerings (formerly used to support 'our' missionary family, the Scheiwes, who no longer need the support), are being sent to support Lutheran Hour Ministries for use in their Global Initiative.

God has called Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) to proclaim the risen Savior around the world to reach those who have never heard the Good News of Jesus Christ. Operating as a global ministry network, LHM shares Christ's love with the world through a proven approach of identifying and equipping local laypeople to build their presence and impact using specific strategies and tactics contextual to the culture and language in which they serve.

Over the next several years, LHM envisions a multidivisional global mission rooted in localized regional leadership. This will be paired with a new evangelistic ministry model based on LHM's core outreach philosophies to be applied in all regions around the world – resulting in strengthened local ownership, revenue generation, and constituent engagement. Ultimately, these plans will allow LHM to reach more people around the world with the hope and comfort of the Gospel.



Family⁺

Lani Sanders

Parents are the primary shapers of faith and life

in their children... ~ Ben Freudenburg

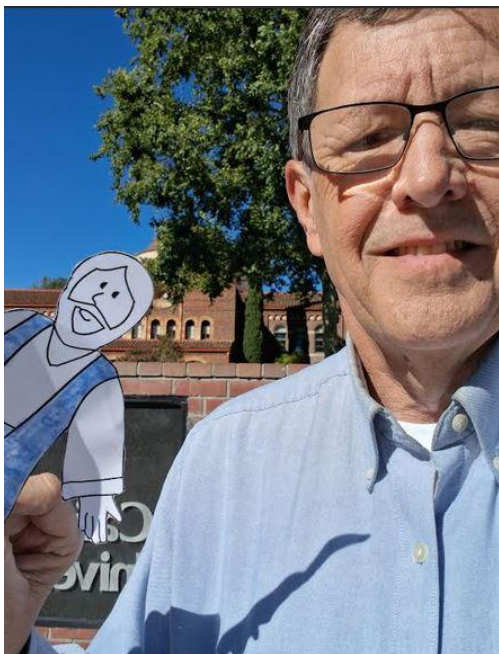
I recently read an article written by Mary Hunt (of *Everyday Cheapskate* fame), titled *When You're Too Tired to Cook* (subtitled *Parenting has its challenges, but mealtimes don't need to be one of them*). The introduction of the article talks about how much money is leaked out of our budgets by eating out/fast food when we're too tired to cook, to numb to figure out what to cook, too late getting home to start dinner, etc.

There are five ideas under six headings explaining her suggestions to ease mealtime stress. The sixth heading explains why she believes making dinner at home matters.

Under the heading **DAYES ARE LONG, YEARS ARE LONGER**, she says, "Surely, there's no more difficult job in the entire world than parenting young children—and nothing more rewarding. *Make dinnertime an anchor in your day* now while your kids are young, and the tradition will come back to bless you as they get older. Even though they'll never tell you, *dinnertime will become something they know that they can count on in an otherwise uncertain world.* Enjoy these precious days ..." (Emphasis mine.)

Mary Hunt wrote this to address an issue that plagues many families raising children. The truth, though, is that it is true no matter your age. People of every age appreciate and respond to stability in their lives, to anchors they can count on in this very unstable time. Deciding to have set meal times at the table can improve relationships, home life, budget issues, and health, and can bring joy and a sense of contentment to everyone's life.

Make dinnertime an anchor in your day.



Flat Jesus at Chico State University and at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Chico with Pastor Busch

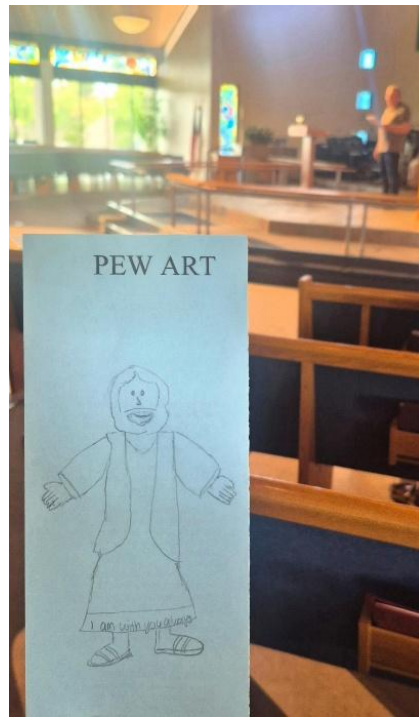
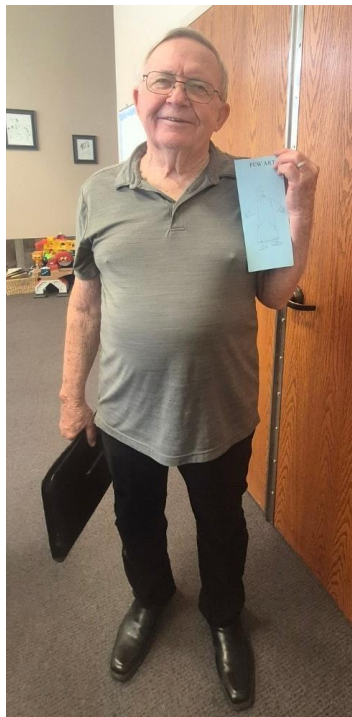
Zion Family Adventures with Flat Jesus



ZLYF August BBQ



Emily with flat Jesus at her college move-in at Concordia University Irvine.



Flat Jesus with Don Hays conducting service on August 2

*And whatever you do, whether in
word or deed, do it all
in the name of the Lord
Jesus, giving thanks to
God the Father through him. Col.3:17*

From a Strictly Mathematical Viewpoint

Submitted by Lori Knapp

What equals 100%? What does it mean to give MORE than 100%? Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%? We have all been in situations where someone wants you to give over 100%. How about achieving 101%? What equals 100% in life?

Here's a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these questions:

If:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Is represented as:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 1 9 20 21 22 23 24 25 26.

Then:

H-A-R-D-W-O-R-K

$8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98\%$

And:

K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E

$11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96\%$

But:

A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E

$1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100\%$

AND, look how far the love of God will take you:

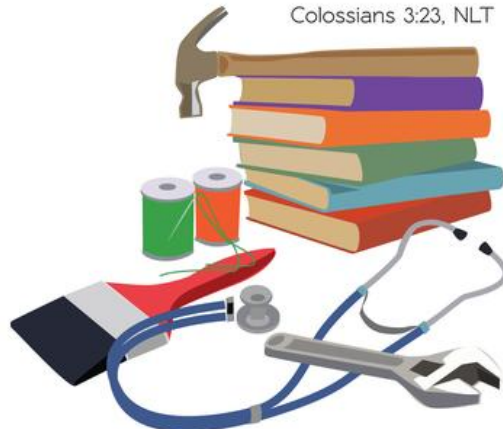
L-O-V-E-O-F-G-O-D

$12+15+22+5+15+6+7+15+4 = 101\%$

Therefore, one can conclude with mathematical certainty that while *Hard Work* and *Knowledge* will get you close, and *Attitude* will get you there, it's the *Love of God* that will put you over the top!

Work willingly at
whatever you do,
as though you were
working for the Lord
rather than for people.

Colossians 3:23, NLT





Services or items needed or available



Revocable Living Trust Template

Diana Santini, RHIA

(909) 240-4907

trustsantini@gmail.com

11931 Autumn Wind Lane

Victorville, CA 92392



Revocable Trust Includes

- Pour Over Will
- Certification of Trust
- Abstract of Trust
- Power of Attorney
- Advanced Healthcare Directive
- Grant Deed Documents
- Trust Asset Forms
- Personal Effects Form
- Amendment to Trust Form
- Codicil of Last Will & Testament Form
- Final Arrangement Form
- Successor Trustee Guidelines
- Glossary of Terms



Sharing life in Christ is

ZLYF!

Tristina Rodriguez

MEETINGS:

Every Sunday during Sunday School at 10:30 AM

ACTIVITIES:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 3-7, 2028 – LCMS National Youth Gathering in San Antonio, TX

Contributors:

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Rosemarie Carrizosa\
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Aurora Martinez
Charlene Perry
Tristina Rodriguez
Lani Sanders

Glad Tidings is a monthly publication. Suitable articles are welcome, and will be printed as space permits. Type in plain Times New Roman 12 pt. font, save as a Word document (not Google Doc, PDF, etc.), attach to an email addressed to fmlsndrs@aol.com, subject Glad Tidings. Articles are subject to editing for clarity and length. The deadline is the 20th